

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Serial No: 10/575,599
Filed: April 13, 2006
Title: DISPERSE AZO DYESTUFFS
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Art Unit: 1626
Examiner: Fiona Powers

Hon. Commissioner of Patents & Trademarks
Washington, D. C. 20231

DECLARATION (Rule 132)

Sir:

I, Adrian Murgatroyd from Rossendale, UK, declare: I am a Chemical Engineer and a citizen of the United Kingdom, residing at Wed 9, 65929 Frankfurt am Main, Federal Republic of Germany.

Since completing my studies at the University of Exeter in the United Kingdom, I have been employed as a textile technician by Tootal Limited, Manchester, UK and as a development manager by ICI (subsequently Zeneca), Manchester, UK. The textile activities of Zeneca were taken over by BASF Aktiengesellschaft, Ludwigshafen, Germany, where I worked as a product manager and as a development manager. In October 2000 BASF transferred its activities in the textile dyestuff field to DyStar and since then I have been employed by DyStar Textilfarben GmbH & Co. Deutschland KG in Frankfurt, Germany as a product development manager for disperse dyes.

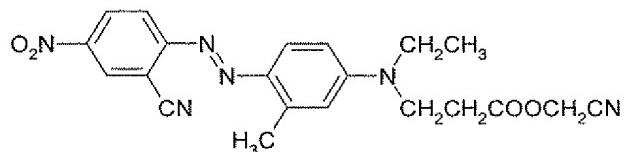
I have had adequate professional experience in the field to which patent application Serial No. 10/575,599, filed April 13, 2006, pertains and which was filed by Nigel Hall.

I further declare:

In order to demonstrate that the dyestuffs according to the present application are not obvious over the teachings of the prior art the tests described below have been carried out under my personal guidance and supervision.

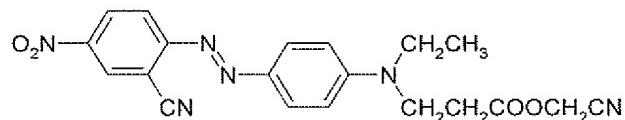
I. DYESTUFFS

1. Dyestuff 3 of the formula



according to Example 11 of the present invention

2. Dyestuff 4 of the formula



according to Example 41 of US 3,097,198 to Fishwick et al. (prior art)

II) Determination of the dye mixture's sensitivity to change of pH

The sensitivity of dyeings obtained with Dyestuffs 3 and 4 to change of pH value was determined. For that purpose dyeings at different pH values were produced and compared.

Dyebaths at pH values of 4.5, 5.5, 6.5 and 7.5 were produced for each dyestuff by using the 0.48 g of a 2% dyestuff dispersion containing Dyestuff 3 and 0.46 g of a 2% dyestuff dispersion containing Dyestuff 4, respectively, sodium dihydrogen phosphate and disodium hydrogen phosphate, respectively, as buffer. The pH values were adjusted using acetic acid and sodium carbonate, respectively.

The dyebaths thus obtained were used to dye in each case 5 g of a polyester fabric at 130°C for 60 minutes. The dyeings were after treated as usual and dried and then evaluated colorimetrically by means of reflection color measurement.. The dyeings obtained at pH 4.5 were used as standard and set to 100%. The following results were obtained:

Dyestuff	pH 3.5	pH 4.5	pH 5.5	pH 6.5	pH 7.5
3 (invention)	100	100	93	70	15
4 (prior art)	99	100	84	46	8

IV. RESULTS

The tests show that the dyeings obtained with the inventive Dyestuff 3 are by far less sensitive to change of pH value when compared to the dyeings obtained with Dyestuff 4 according to prior art. This improvement could not at all be foreseen for a person skilled in the art and was thus unexpected and surprising.

I further declare that I understand the contents of this Declaration, that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

Signed at Frankfurt

This 20th day of November 2007

Adrian Murgatroyd
 (Adrian Murgatroyd)